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1 68. The system of claim 66, further comprising:  
2 a dialer, coupled to the string handler, for, responsive to the keystroke se-  
3 quence not producing a valid result in the first context and pro-  
4 ducing a valid result in the second context, dialing a telephone  
5 number specified by the second value for each keystroke.

1 69. The system of claim 66, wherein:  
2 the output device comprises a display screen;  
3 the character input device comprises a keyboard; and  
4 each character input device element comprises a key.

1 70. The system of claim 66, further comprising:  
2 a second output device, coupled to the string handler, for, responsive to  
3 the keystroke sequence not producing a valid result in the first  
4 context and not producing a valid result in the second context,  
5 outputting an invalidity indicator.

1 71. The system of claim 70, wherein the second output device comprises  
2 at least one selected from:  
3 an auditory output device; and  
4 a visual output device.

1           72. The system of claim 66, wherein, responsive to the keystroke sequence  
2   not producing a valid result in the first context and not producing a valid result  
3   in the second context, the output device outputs an invalidity indicator.

1           73. The system of claim 66, wherein the first context comprises accepting  
2   input for an iterative directory filtering operation on a plurality of directory re-  
3   cords.

1           74. The system of claim 73, further comprising:  
2   a directory filter, coupled to the string handler, for, responsive to the key-  
3                stroke sequence producing a valid result in the first context, per-  
4                forming the directory filtering operation using the first value for  
5                each of the stored keystrokes.

1           75. The system of claim 66, wherein at least one of the contexts comprises  
2   accepting input for a direct entry operation.

1           76. The system of claim 75, wherein the first context comprises accepting  
2   input for a direct entry operation.

1           77. The system of claim 76, wherein the direct entry operation comprises a  
2   telephone number direct entry operation.

1           78. The system of claim 66, wherein the first context comprises accepting  
2     input for a directory filtering operation, and the second context comprises ac-  
3     cepting input for a direct entry operation.

1           79. The system of claim 66, wherein:  
2           each first value comprises one selected from the group consisting of a let-  
3           ter and a punctuation symbol; and  
4           each second value comprises a number.

1           80. The system of claim 66, wherein:  
2           each first value comprises one selected from the group consisting of a let-  
3           ter and a punctuation symbol; and  
4           each second value comprises one selected from the group consisting of a  
5           number and a punctuation symbol.

1           81. The system of claim 66, wherein:  
2           responsive to at least one of the keystrokes not being valid in one of the  
3           contexts, the string handler determines that the other context is  
4           intended.

1           82. A system for concurrently accepting parameters in at least two con-  
2     texts, the system comprising: